

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 00407 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 10 JAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ETRD, UK

SUBJ: COFFEE: WORKING GROUP ON NEGOTIATING OF A NEW
AGREEMENT

REF: LONDON 313

1. JANUARY 8 AND 9 MEETING OF WORKING GROUP DEVOTED

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TO PRESENTATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY PROPOSALS FOR

NEW ICA AND QUESTIONS BY WG MEMBERS.FORMAL PRESENTATIONS
MADE BY THE NETHERLANDS, UGANDA, BRAZIL, SWEDEN AND
PORTUGAL.

2. IN MOST CASES, COUNTRIES SUMMARIZED THE PAPERS THEY
HAD SUBMITTED EARLIER (WHICH DEPARTMENT SHOULD HAVE) AND
OOENED THEMSELVES TO QUESTIONS. QUESTIONS WERE POINTED
AND, IN GENERAL' GERMANE. SEVERAL POINTS OF INTEREST
EMERGED IN THE DISCUSSIONS. BOTH THE NETHERLANDS AND
SWEDEN STATED FLATLY THEIR GOVERNMENTS COULD NOT,
REPEAT NOT ACCEPT "AUTOMATIC INDEX.ATION." BRAZIL
WAFFLED WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT "GUARANTEE OF EXPORT
EARNINGS" IN ITS PROPOSAL, CLAIMING ENGLISH TRANSLATION
DID NOT REFLECT TRUE SENSE OF PORTUGUESE ORIGINAL.
UGANDAN AND OAMCAF REPS QUESTIONED BRAZIL CLOSELY
ON RATIONALE FOR USE OF EXTENDED HISTORIC BASIS FOR
ALLOCATION OF QUOTAS, FORCING BRAZILIAN REP ON DEFEN-
SIVE TO POINT HE CLAIMED HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND MUCH
ABOUT MARKET OPERATION.

3. LONGEST Q AND A SESSION CAME OVER PORTUGUESE PRO-
POSAL WHICH WAS ONLY ONE TO APPROACH A NEW AGREEMENT
IN TERMS MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST. FULL DAY
JANUARY 9 SPENT GRILLING PORTUGUESE REP. VIRTUALLY
ALL REPS CONGRATULATED PORTUGUESE ON THE "INGENUITY"
OF PROPOSAL WHICH EITHER AVOIDED OR FINESSED THE MOST
CONTENTIOUS PROBLEMS OF EARLIER AGREEMENTS THE
PROPOSAL CONTAINED ELEMENTS ATTRACTIVE TO BOTH CONSUMERS
AND PRODUCERS, BUT WHETHER MEMBERS CONSIDERED MORE THAN
A STIMULATING INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE WAS NOT CLEAR FROM
THE DISCUSSIONS.

4. AS AT EARLIER WG MEETING (AS CONTRASTED TO EB
SESSION ON INDICATOR PRICES) DISCUSSIONS WERE SERIOUS
AND BUSINESSLIKE WITH MINIMUM OF POSTURING.
SPIERS UNQTE INGERSOLL

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